

Appln No. 09/690,796
Amdt date December 12, 2006
Reply to Office action of November 28, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 5-10, 17, 22, 42, 50-52, 55-59, 61, 92, 107, 108, 110, 113, and 114 are currently pending. Claims 1, 7, 50, 56, 92, 107 and 114 are amended.

Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for the phone conference on December 6, 2006.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for not being clear "whether each of the modules is capable of performing each of the tasks individually or if all of the modules combine to perform the tasks." Claims 1 recites, in part, "each of the plurality of cryptographic modules for authenticating, processing value for the VBI, and generating indicia data for the plurality of users." Therefore, Applicant believes that the claim language clearly specifies that "each of the modules is capable of performing each of the tasks individually." Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the above rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 7, 56, and 114 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. In view of the amendments to the above claims, it is respectfully requested that the above rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 5-10, 17, 22, 42, 50-52, 55-59, 61, 92, 107, 108, 110, 113 and 114 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-37 of U.S. Copending Application No. 10/083,236. However, in the above-mentioned phone conference, the Examiner stated that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection should be over the (now allowed) U.S. Application No. 09/690,066, and not the U.S. Copending Application No. 10/083,236 as originally stated in the Office action. As requested by the Examiner, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection over respective claims of the U.S. Application No. 09/690,066.

There is no pending rejections of any claims over any prior art references and the Examiner stated that in view of the above amendments to the claims, the Application should now be in condition for allowance.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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